

News Release

Author Marty Essen brings his "Around the World in 90 Minutes" program to Thursday Commons on April 7, 2011

By Itollefs on Monday, March 21, 2011

One of the hottest speakers in the college market is coming to the University of Minnesota Crookston during a Thursday Commons event on April 7, 2011. One part lecture, one part theater, one part slide show, and one part comedy, Author Marty Essen's "Around the World in 90 Minutes" begins at 12 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium. Sponsored by the Crookston Student Association, the student governing body on the Crookston campus, this exciting event is free and everyone is welcome.



"Around the World in 90 minutes" covers material on endangered species, new scientific discoveries, and the need for environmental protection. Funded by Concerts and Lectures, the event features interesting facts, humorous stories, and the best of the thousands of photos Essen took while traveling the world for his book, Cool Creatures, Hot Planet: Exploring the Seven Continents.

Biographical information

Born in Duluth, Minnesota, Essen developed a love of animals at an early age. His dream of an animal-oriented career became sidetracked at the age of 13, when he volunteered to answer request lines at a radio station. That position led to a job as a radio announcer, which in turn led him to become the owner of a Minneapolis-based talent management agency.

Eventually he moved to Montana to launch an independent local telephone company. In 2001, while being interviewed for a story about his telephone company, Essen mentioned to the reporter that he was heading to the Amazon rainforest. The reporter invited him to write a story about his adventures.

Essen's Amazon story ran as a feature article in two Montana newspapers. The Amazon story, and a second story about a trip to Australia, were so well received that he decided to expand his travels to all seven continents.

While traveling the world, in search of rare and interesting wildlife, Marty was stung by one of the world's most venomous insects, bitten by a poisonous snake, surrounded by wolves, attacked by a hippo--and had the time of his life. His unique adventures are chronicled in his book and are the basis for his multimedia presentation.

For more information about the event, contact Lisa Samuelson at 218-281-8507. Today the University of Minnesota, Crookston delivers 29 bachelor's degree programs, 18 minors, and more than 40 concentrations, including several online degrees, in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of about 1,400 undergraduates from more than 25 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit www.umcrookston.edu.

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2900 University Ave., Crookston, MN 56716
800-862-6466 | 218-281-6510 | umcinfo@umn.edu

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